

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/563,118

Examiner

David N. Spector

Applicant(s)

WOODGATE ET AL.

Art Unit

2873

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Application filed 1/30/2006; Amendment filed 11/13/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 29-40.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.  
(a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached  
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
(b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                                       | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                      |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                              | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>0306/20060330</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material                        | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|                                                                                                                                   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.                                               |

Claims 29-40 are allowed. Claims 1-28 were canceled by applicant. All pending claims thus being allowable, prosecution on the merits is closed in this application.

### ***Reasons for Allowance***

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art taken either singly or in combination fails to anticipate or fairly suggest the features/limitations of applicant's independent claims, in such a manner that a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 or 103 would be proper. More specifically, in regard to these independent claims,

Independent Claim 29 the prior art taken either singly or in combination fails to anticipate or fairly suggest a lens array structure comprising first and second birefringent lens arrays arranged in series in which at least one of the first birefringent lens array and the second birefringent lens array is an active lens array switchable between a first mode in which the active lens array directs incident light of one polarization into a respective directional distribution and has substantially no effect on incident light of a polarization perpendicular to said one polarization and a second mode in which the active lens array has substantially no optical effect (Claim 29, Lines 14-18), taken together in combination with the totality of particular features/limitations recited therein;

Independent Claim 36 the prior art taken either singly or in combination fails to anticipate or fairly suggest a display apparatus comprising first and second birefringent lens arrays arranged in series, in which at least one of the first birefringent lens array and the second birefringent lens array is an active lens array switchable between a first mode in which the active lens array directs incident light of one polarization into a respective directional distribution and has substantially no effect on incident light of a polarization perpendicular to said one polarization and a second mode in which the active lens array has substantially no optical effect (Claim 36, Lines 16-21), taken together in combination with the totality of particular features/limitations recited therein.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Other Remarks/Information***

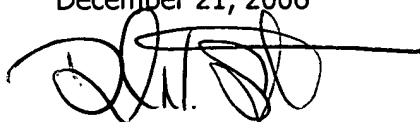
The International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210) prepared for the parent (PCT/GB04/002984) of the instant National Stage application by the European Patent Office on 9/14/2004 has been considered in the present examination, along with all of the documents cited therein.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Woodgate et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,058,252 B2) discloses a related light switching apparatus. Woodgate et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2006/0176541 A1); Harold et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2006/0164528 A1); Harold et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2006/0158511 A1) and Woodgate et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2006/0098296 A1) are published versions of copending ASNs 11/327,652; 11/563,121; 10/563,119 respectively.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any other inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David N. Spector whose telephone number is (571) 272-2338. The examiner can normally be reached at this number Monday through Friday between 6:00 AM and 2:30 PM. The Official FAX number for the United States Patent and Trademark Office is (571) 273-8300.

December 21, 2006



David N. Spector  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2873